

UACJ

DIGA

**MEXICO'S INFORMATION POLICIES
AT THE
END OF THE MILLENIUM**

A paper for the panel
“Globalization and information policy”, Session 508,
54th Canadian Library Association Conference,
June 16-20, 1999

by

**Jesús Lau
Jesús Cortés**

Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez (UACJ)
Heroico Colegio Militar 3775
32310 Ciudad Juárez, México
Phone +52(16)113167
Fax +52(16)113168
E-mail jlau@uacj.mx / jcortes@uacj.mx

ABSTRACT

Mexico's information policies have been adapted to participate in a more global world in the last decade of the millenium. The formal joining of the country to the former GATT, and NAFTA, and several other free trade agreements with Latin American nations has meant changes and adaptations of intellectual property, copyright and flow of information legislation. This in turn has shaped information policies at institutional, county, state and national level. The new legal national information framework is just beginning to impact information servicies of most type of organizations, such as libraries. This paper gives an overview of Mexico's laws and legal initiatives that will shape the future flow of information in Mexican society in the years to come and the effect in library and information services.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR PRINTED INFORMATION (5)

- * 1846 - Copyright law is passed.
- * 1867 - National Library.
- * 1932 - National Serials Collection.
- * 1965 - Legal deposit.
- * 1970 - CONACYT is founded and given the responsibility
? of creating a National Scientific Information and Documentation Service
(NSIDS)?.
- * 1976 - CONACYT published the document describing the
scope of NISSD.
- * 1979 - The Mexican Constitution is reformed to include
the right of every citizen to have access to
information.
- * 1983 - National Institute of Statistics, Geography and
Informatics (INEGI) is founded.
- * 1984 - Copyright of software law is passed.
- * 1986 - Free Postal Service to post among libraries.
- * 1987 - A presidential decree creates the National
Network of Public Libraries.
- * 1987 - Tax incentives for S&T databases.
- * 1990 - Telecommunication law is modified to permit
private sector to offer telecommunications
services.

PRESERVATION OF PRINTED INFORMATION

The National Library
National Serials Collection
General Archives of the Nation
Union Congress Library
Similar organizations exist in most Mexican states

INFORMATION POLICY MAKERS

- * INEGI -- National Institute of Statistics, Geography,
and Informatics (government statistics,
census, social and economic data).
- * SECOFI - Ministry of Trade and Industrial Promotion.
- * SEP ---- Ministry of Public Education (University,
public and school libraries).
- * BANCO DE MEXICO - Central bank (Macro-Economic
statistics).
- * CONACYT National Council for Science and Technology

- (Scientific and Technological information).
- * SCT --- Ministry of Communications and Transport
(Telecommunication policies).
 - * Supreme Court - Jurisprudence.
 - * Congress - Legislation.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- AMBAC - Mexican Association of Librarians
- ANBAGRO - National Association of Agricultural Librarians
- CNB - National College of Certified Librarians
- ABIESI - Association of higher education and research Librarians (not totally active).

MAIN NETWORKS

- SEP
 - 3000 public library networks
 - 80 Polytechnic library systems
 - Public university libraries
- INEGI - Government statistics/data/information
- CONACYT
 - Science and technology information centers
 - Access to foreign online databases
 - National online database standards and policies

DEMAND OF INFORMATION POLICIES

Create standards of services and information sources.
Have a stronger voice in financing bodies.
Coordinate national information activities.
Foster cooperation and exchange of information.
Compile national reference sources.

12. REFERENCES.

[1] Bender, David R.; Kadec, Sarah T.; and Morton, Sandy I. **National information policies: Strategies for the future.** Washington, DC: Special Libraries Association, 1991. 62 p.

[2] Carrión, Guadalupe. "Panorama general de los servicios bibliotecarios de información: Servicios de información para la industria..." **Seminario sobre políticas nacionales de**

información para la investigación y el desarrollo. México: CUIB-UNAM, 1990. pp. 45-60.

[3] Cruz, Rosalba y Delgado, Hector. "Bancos de información." **Seminario sobre políticas nacionales de información para la investigación y el desarrollo.** México: CUIB-UNAM, 1990. pp. 63-92.

[4] Gray, John. **National information policies: Problems and progress.** London: Mansell, 1988. 143 p.

[5] Gutiérrez-Chiñas, Agustín. "Políticas nacionales de información técnica: el caso de México." México: fotocopia, 1991. 16 p.

[6] Hill, Michael. **National information policies: A review of the situation in seventeen industrialized countries...** FID Occasional Paper Series 2, FID Num. 678, The Hague, 1989.

[7] IDRC. **Assessment indicators for the impact of information on development: preliminary report of an international computer conference.** Ottawa: IDRC, 1992. 95 p.

[8] Molino, Enzo. "Consideraciones para el diseño de políticas nacionales de información." **Seminario sobre políticas nacionales de información para la investigación y el desarrollo.** México: CUIB-UNAM, 1990. pp. 1-16.

[9] Molino, Enzo. **Políticas de información en América Latina y el Caribe: Estudio en siete países de la región.** To be published by UNESCO, México, mayo 1992. 72 p.

[10] Molino, Enzo. "Políticas de información en México." Documento presentado para el Curso de Formadores... CUIB-UNAM, México, 1988. 8 p.

[11] Morales, Estela; Ramírez, Elsa; y Barquet, Concepción. "Panorama general de los servicios bibliotecarios de información: Usuarios, servicios..." **Seminario sobre políticas nacionales de información para la investigación y el desarrollo.** México: CUIB-UNAM, 1990. pp. 19-44.

INFORMATION SEARCH:

Mexican libraries capabilities to lobby

The new copyright law:

- What are the changes

- Impact in library services

- Photocopy,

- book lending

- General impact on society

Software copyright
Role of SECOFI
Internet and legal property vs free flow of information
Differences between practice and law in protection of legal property
Duplication in libraries and at home, etc.
The US push for intellectual property protection
Conference of the WIPO in Mexico
Changes in telecommunications
State library laws
Political changes
Potential loss of balance between economic and social information flows
Transborder data flows
Agreements signed in the last ten years:

- World Intellectual Property Organization
- World Trade Organization
- Multilateral Agreement on Trade (Phase II)
- Agreements with Chile, Costa Rica, etc.

Access to government data and information
Copy machines, tape recorders, video, cut and paste in Internet

CHECK:

Papers of Monica Guerrero
Talk with Monica, prepare a questionnaire
Memoria de Congreso WIPO held in Mexico
Review Copyright law
Infobila
Revista de Derechos de Autor
List of Mexican web pages related to this topic

DIRECTORY OF MEXICAN INFORMATION POLICY MAKERS (Incluir dirección postal, tel, fax, correl y www)

INEGI
Banco de México
ISSN
ISBN
Oficina de Derechos de Autor
SECOFI, Oficina de patentes y propiedad intelectual
IMPI
SCT, depto encargado de políticas
Biblioteca Nacional

